



\$2.95 U.S.
DEC 1998

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TERRIE SMITH ©98

King's Ransom

part 2



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* SEE MIDNIGHT SONATA



MOST OF MY LOVERS
END UP DEAD, IF
THEY CROSS ME.

STRANGE THAT YOU
SHOULD SURVIVE.

LIKE YOUR HANDIWORK,
LOVER? THE ONE TIME YOU
EVER SHOT STRAIGHT...



THAT'S WHAT I'D
LIKE TO KNOW.

I THOUGHT WE'D GET
TOGETHER. HAVE A FEW LAUGHS.
PLAY A FEW... GAMES.



WHY KIDNAP
THE PET?

WHY? C-CORP'S IDEA.
THIS WAY YOU'RE DEAD
AND IN DISGRACE. AND
SPEAKING OF 'WHY'...



MR. WILSON,
WE HAVE TO GET
IN THERE!

WHY? WHY YOU COULD LEAVE
ME FOR THIS... THIS INSECT!
WHAT COULD HE EVER OFFER
YOU THAT I COULDN'T?!

WE WILL.
STAND CLEAR.





TELL YOU LATER. RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE TO GET TO OUR SHIP!



NEVER A DULL MOMENT WITH YOU TWO!

WE AIM TO PLEASE.



NIICE SHIP, BOYS!

ORB? TRACK THAT SHIP. CAST OFF ALL MAGNETIC LINES.



WE LIKE IT.

YOU REALIZE WE'RE NOT CLEARED FOR DEPARTURE...



DETAILS, DETAILS!



THEY HAVE A START ON US, BUT THEY'RE NOT WARPING!



DIDN'T THINK THEY WOULD.
SHE WANTS TO PLAY WITH
US FOR A WHILE.



DO ME A FAVOR AND DON'T TELL ME
WHERE YOU GET YOUR GIRLS. WHAT'S NEXT?

THEY HAVE SOMETHING WE
WANT. SHE'LL EXPECT US
TO COME FOR IT.



SO, WHAT DO YOU
MEAN TO DO?

GIVE HER WHAT SHE WANTS.
I'D HATE TO DISAPPOINT HER.



WHAAAT?

JUST NOT IN THE
WAY SHE EXPECTS.



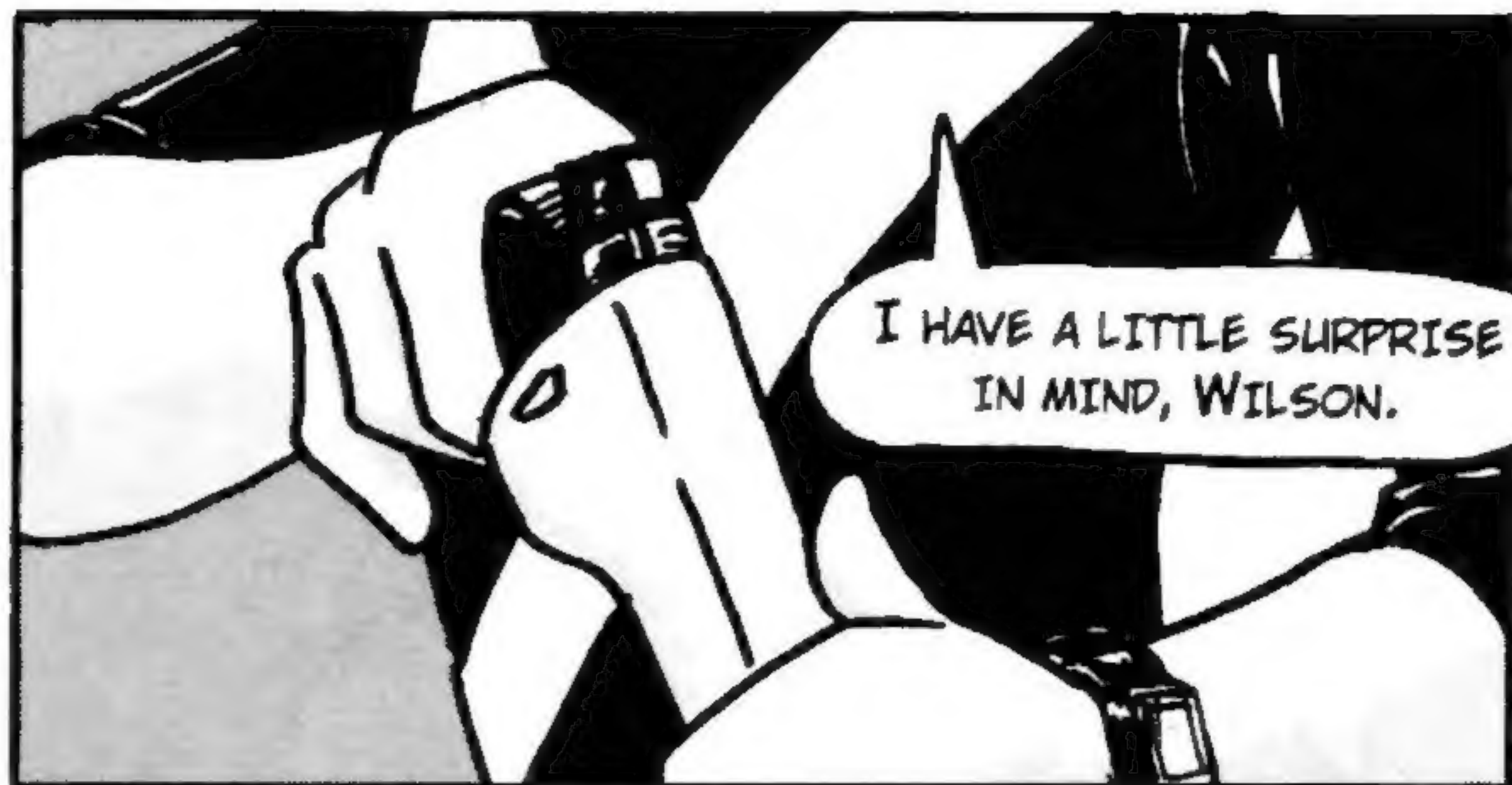
ORB, TAKE OVER. FOLKS,
LET'S ALL HAVE A LITTLE CHAT.



NICE SHIP!



THIS IS CRAZY! YOU'RE JUST GOING TO BARGE IN ON THEIR SHIP?!



I HAVE A LITTLE SURPRISE IN MIND, WILSON.



FOR IT TO WORK, I NEED THEM TO SEE US COMING ABOARD.



I ALSO NEED SOME INFORMATION FROM YOU...

YOU KNOW WHAT HE'S PLANNING?



NOT A CLUE, BUT I'M GOING TO FIND OUT!



NOW, YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

AND DON'T OPEN UP BEFORE WE RETURN!

STAY BY THE GUNS, AND WAIT FOR YOUR SIGNAL.



THEY'LL HAVE SHIELDS, BUT I THINK WE CAN HANDLE THAT ON OUR END.

LET'S MAKE A DIRECT APPROACH. NOT TOO FAST. I WANT TO BE ON THEIR SCREENS THE ENTIRE TIME.

WE'RE TAKING A CHANCE. IF SHE'S NOT AS CRAZY AS WE THINK...

I'LL APOLOGIZE. LET'S GO.

SETTING COURSE.

WHEN WE GET THERE, STAY CLOSE. WE NEED TO GET RIGHT NEXT TO THE PET FOR THIS TO WORK.

KNIFE. THEY'RE COMIN'.

I KNEW THEY WOULD. LURAL NEVER LEFT ANYTHING UNFINISHED.

RIGHT, MARI'?

KRAK



IMPRESSIVE SHIP. THINK
REGULO MIGHT LIKE IT?

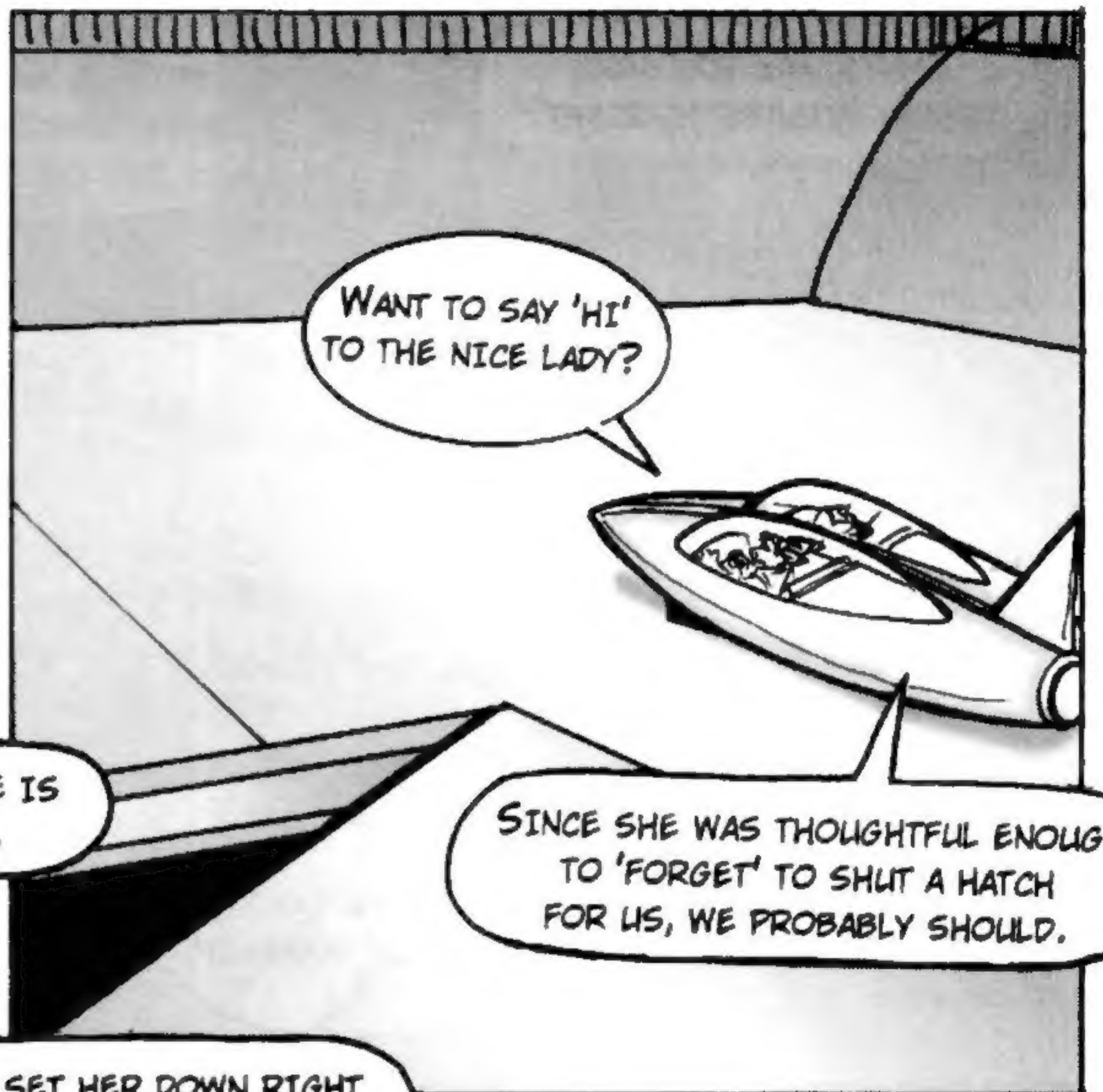


IF THINGS GO RIGHT, I
DON'T THINK IT'LL BE
MUCH USE TO HIM.

SURPRISE, SURPRISE.
THERE'S A HATCH OPEN.



AND NOBODY HOME.
WILL WONDERS NEVER CEASE?



WANT TO SAY 'HI'
TO THE NICE LADY?

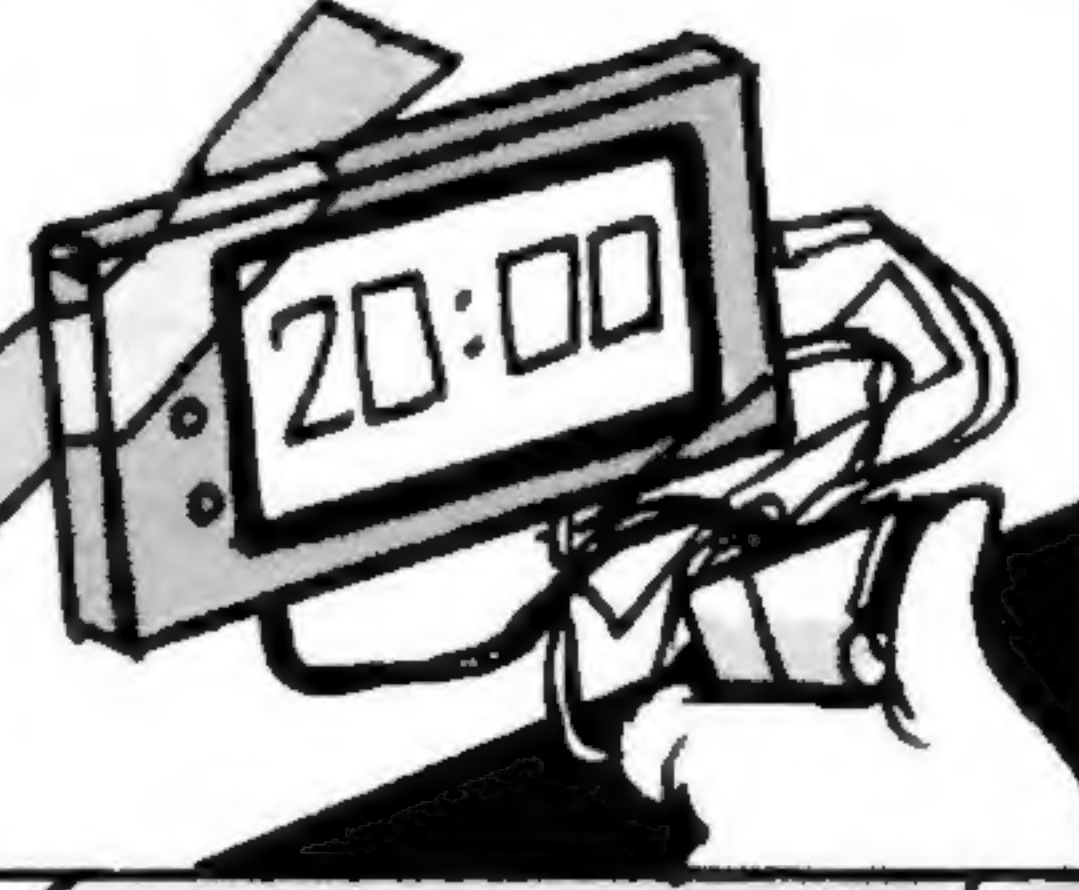
THE HATCH IS CLOSING AND AIR PRESSURE IS
COMING UP. WE WON'T NEED HELMETS.

SINCE SHE WAS THOUGHTFUL ENOUGH
TO 'FORGET' TO SHUT A HATCH
FOR US, WE PROBABLY SHOULD.



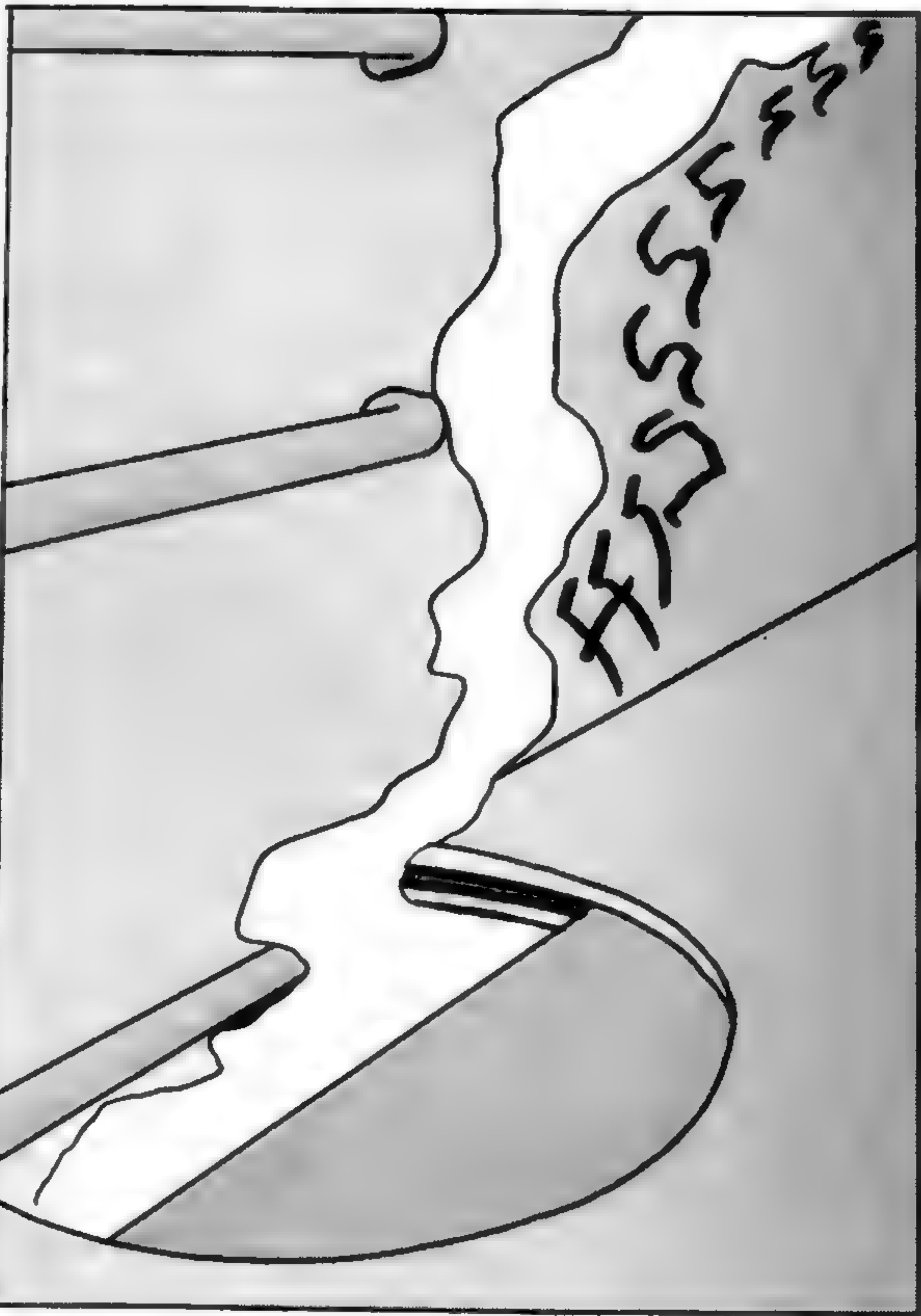
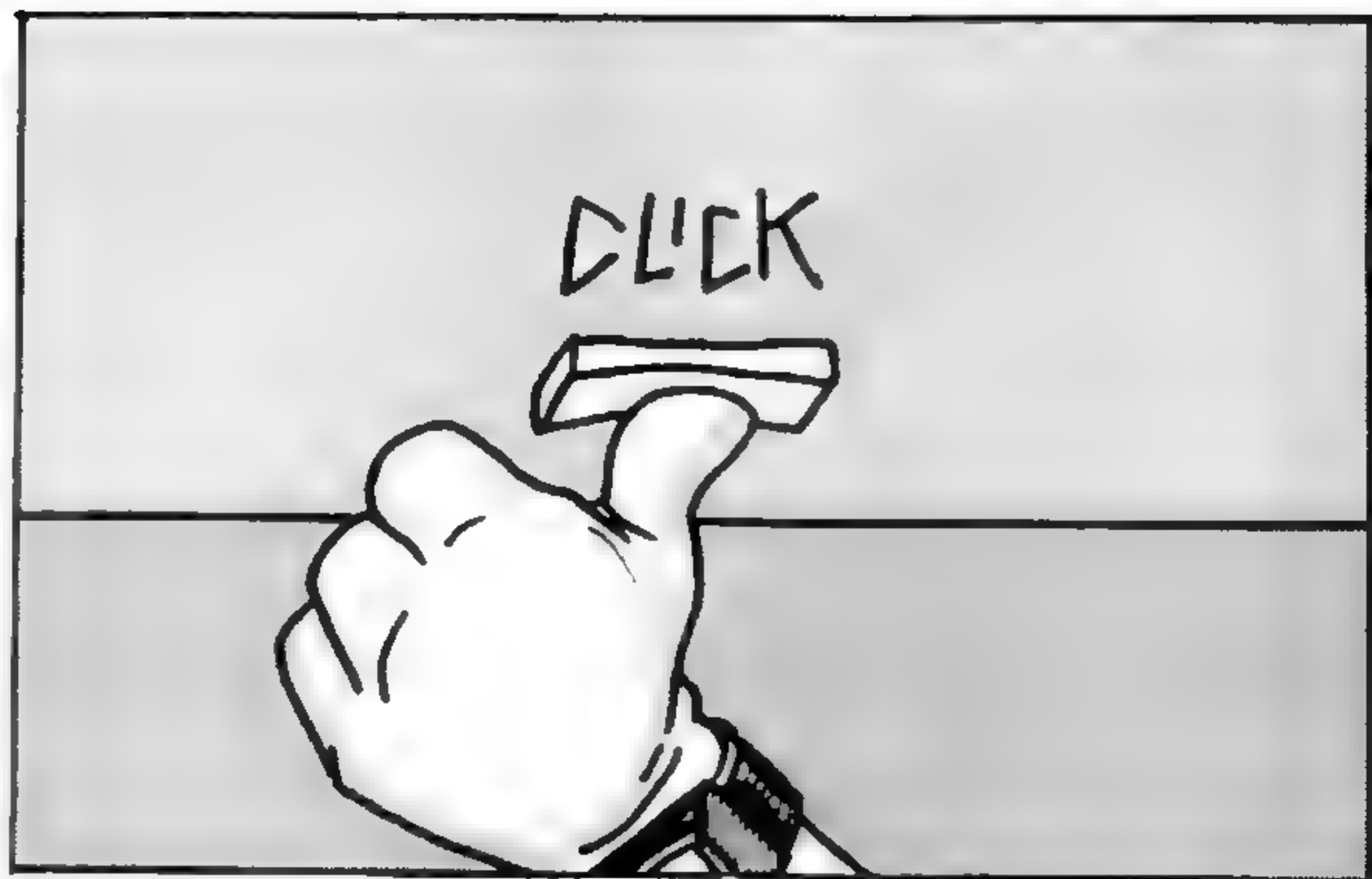
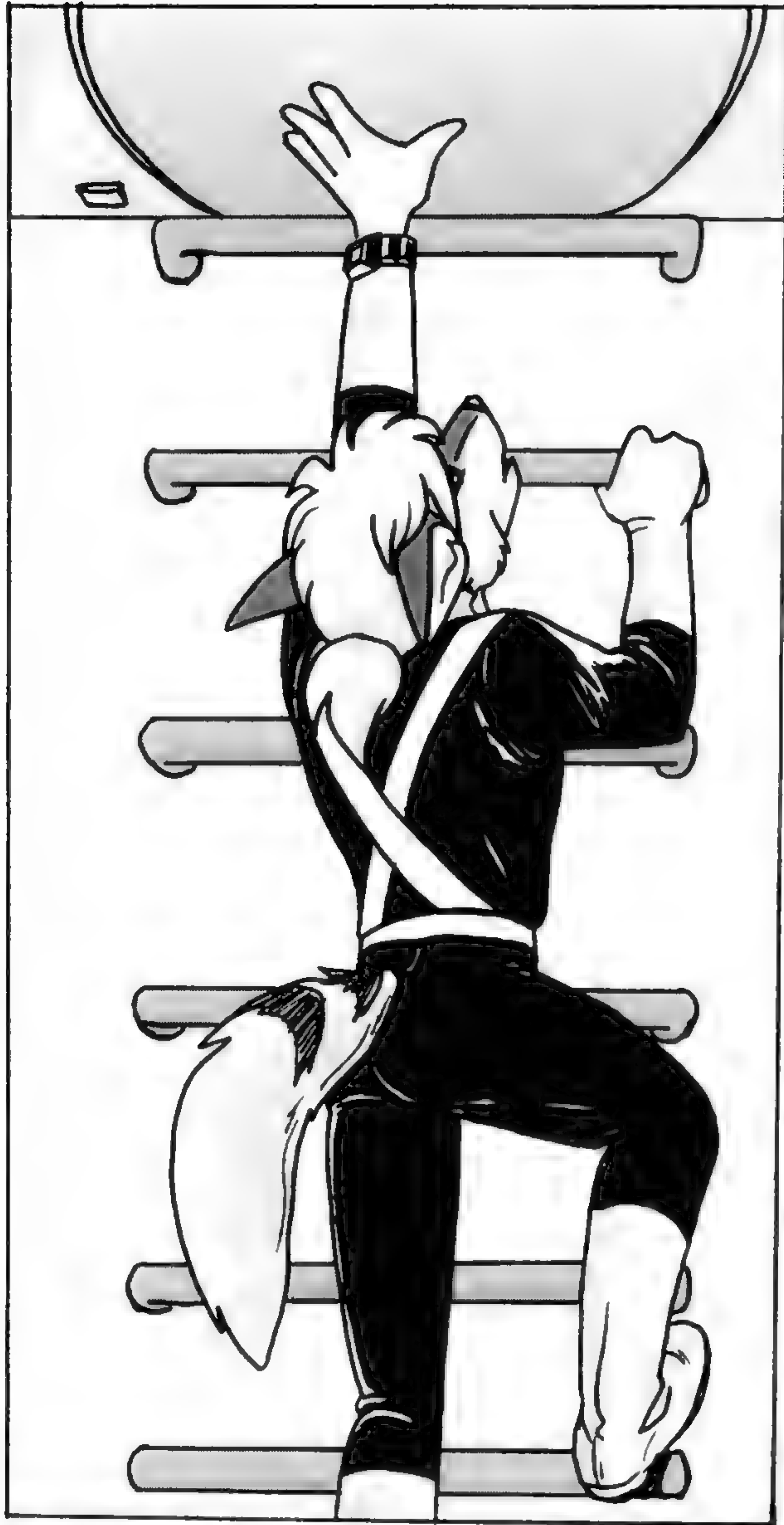
READY? I SET HER DOWN RIGHT
OVER THE MAIN JUNCTION FOR
THE BAY ELECTRIC GRID.

GOOD! I'M SETTING THE TIMER FOR TWENTY
MINUTES. THE ENGINE WILL OVERLOAD ITS
STARTER CIRCUITS. WITH LUCK, THE EXPLOSION
WILL TAKE OUT THEIR BURIED CABLES AND CRIPPLE
SOME OF THE SHIP'S SYSTEMS.











I COULDN'T FIND ANYONE TO ASK DIRECTIONS OF. SO, TELL ME...



... WHAT'S YOUR GAME?
IT CAN'T BE JUST TO KILL ME.



NO. YOU'RE ONLY THE ICING ON THE CAKE, LIRAL. CELESTACORP HIRED US TO 'ACQUIRE' YOUR PASSENGER. SEEMS THEY'RE EXPANDING THEIR MINING OPERATIONS ON S'HCELL AND NEED A LITTLE LEVERAGE. THE ROYAL FAMILY IS BEING... STUBBORN.

FOR THE RECORD, "YOU'RE" GOING TO BLACKMAIL THEM INTO COOPERATING. AFTER WE GET WHAT WE WANT, THERE'LL BE A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT IN SPACE. YOUR SHIP IMPLODES AND EVERYONE'S LOST.

AND DON'T THINK I'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT YOUR PARTNER. MY MEN ARE SEARCHING FOR HIM NOW!



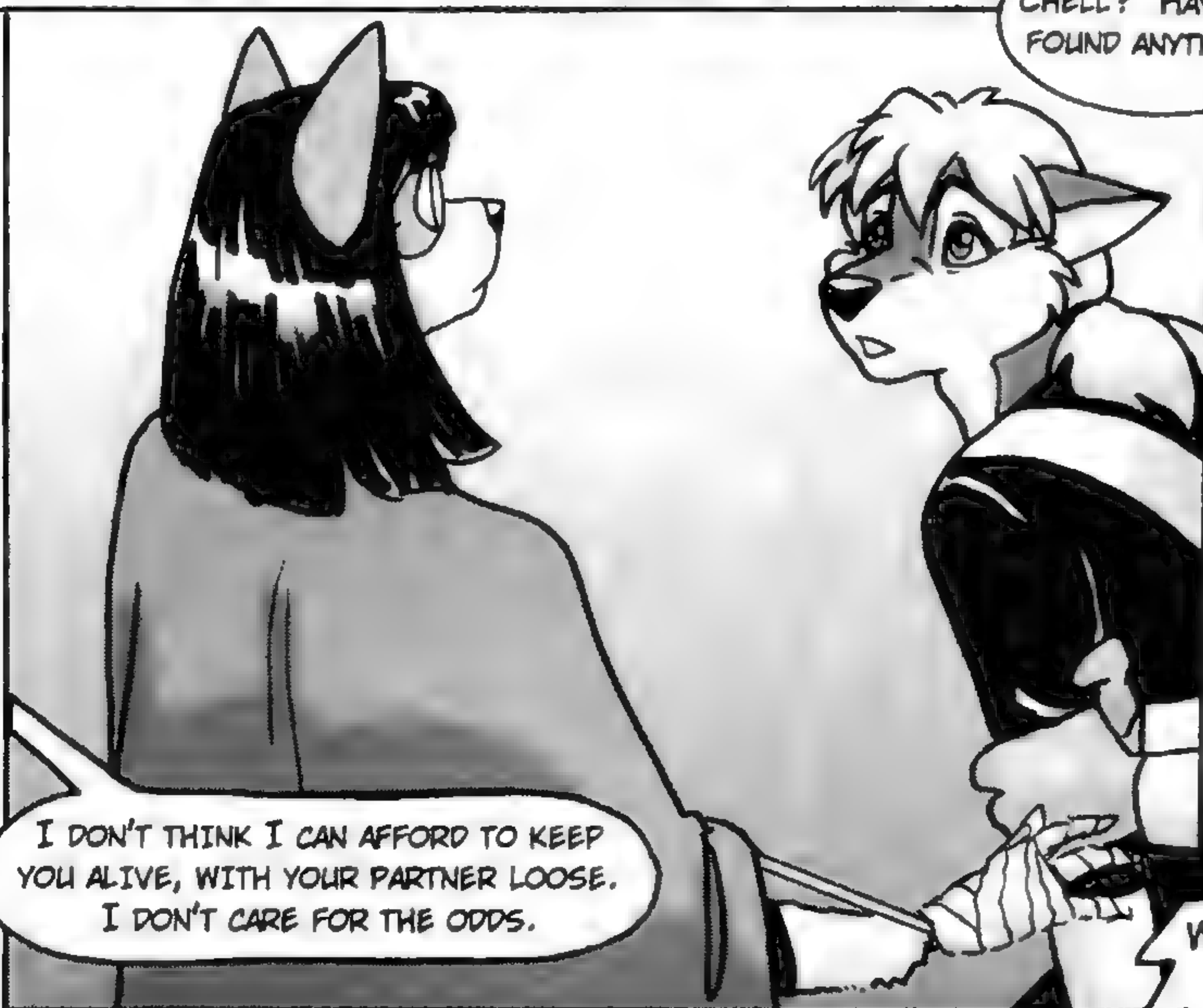
KNIFE! SOMEONE TRIED TO ACCESS THE COMPUTER, BUT HE'S GONE.







BUT DON'T CONCERN YOURSELF. SHE NO LONGER HAS FEELINGS OR EMOTIONS. LIFE IS SO MUCH BETTER AS A MACHINE. I KNOW.



CHELL? HAVE YOU FOUND ANYTHING?



IDIOTS! THAT'S THE FIRST PLACE YOU SHOULD HAVE LOOKED!

CAN'T HAVE THEM CHECK THE SAUCER. THEY'LL SPOT THE TIMER!



TROUBLE IN PARADISE? THAT'S WHY I LEFT YOU. YOU'RE A LOSER, KNIFE.



BUT THEN, WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM A PSYCHO?

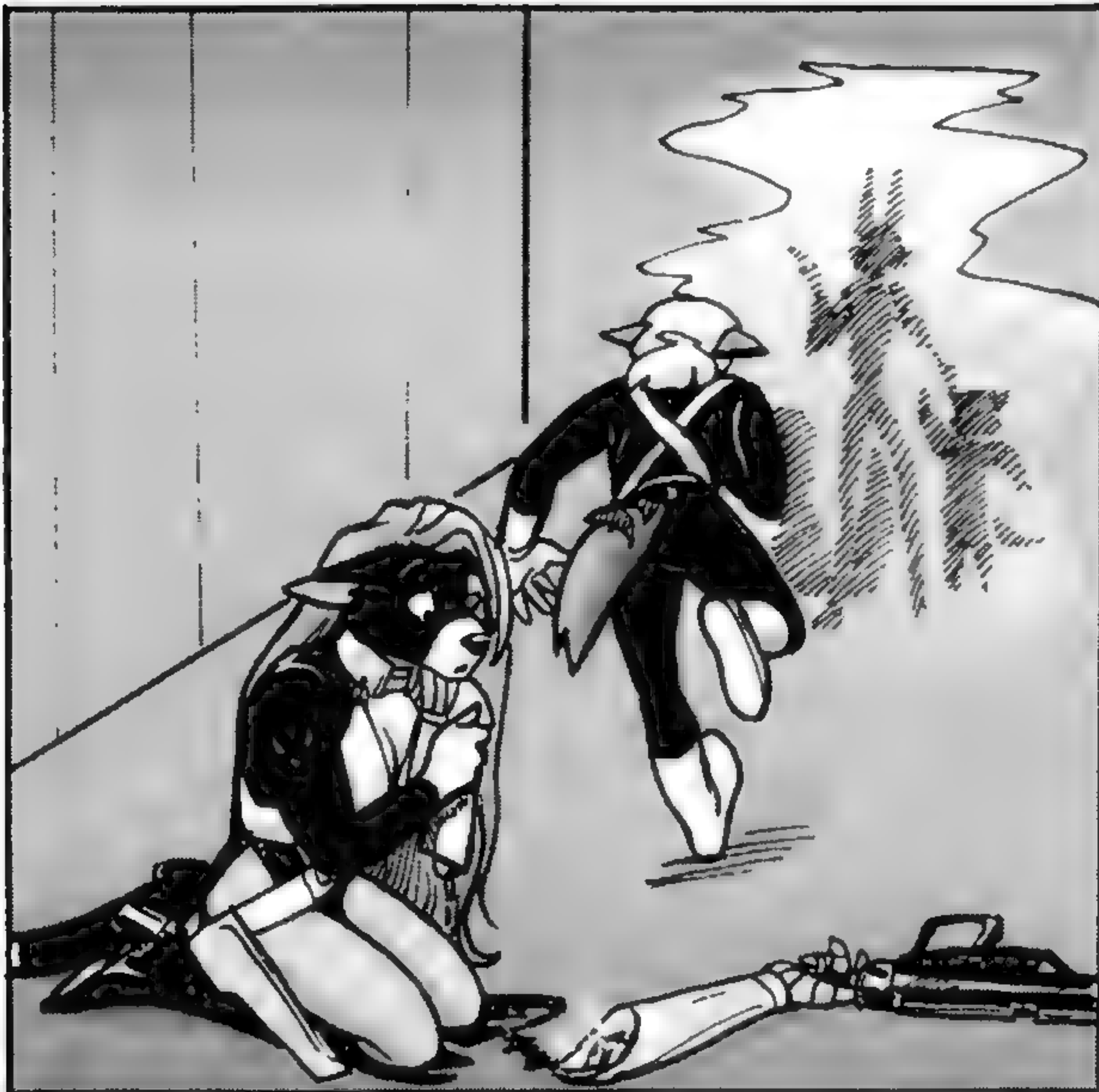












PLANET IC'ZHAEL.
THE SUMMER PALACE

HERE WE ARE,
AS PROMISED.





AH, YES, AND IT APPEARS YOU'VE MADE QUITE AN IMPRESSION ON HER MAJESTY. VERY MUCH THE CLASSIC HERO!

UH... UH...



MODEST TO A FAULT, TOO! WELL, WE'VE GOT TO GO NOW! THINGS TO DO, PEOPLE TO SEE!



BUT WE HAVE YET TO FINALIZE THE PAPERWORK. AND THERE'S THE MATTER OF THE NUPTIALS...

N-NUPTIALS?



NOT TO WORRY! YOU CAN DEAL WITH MR. WILSON AND CAPT. REGULO. THEY'RE OUR OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES ON IC'ZHAEL!

COME ON, CHRIS!



WELL! HEH-HEH! OF COURSE, THERE'S BEEN A RECENT HIKE IN FREIGHT COSTS, SO I'M AFRAID WE MAY HAVE TO REVISE YOUR FEE!

MINISTER? THEY SAY IT'S URGENT!





